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MATHEWS, JOHN M. *Principles of American State Administration*. Pp. xiii, 533. Price, \$2.50. New York: D. Appleton and Company, 1917.

This admirable description of the machinery and activity of State administration is the first separate treatment of the subject which has appeared. It sets a high standard for later works in this field. The book is made up of two main parts which describe The Organization of the Administration and the Functions of the Administration respectively. Under Organization there are chapters on the Governor, his powers, the officials of general administration, such as Secretary of State, Attorney-General, etc., the State boards, the civil service. Under Functions the author discusses taxation and finance, education, charities, health, the enforcement of State law, the administration of justice and newer functions.

One of the chief problems in a book dealing with the States is how to avoid a confusing recital of the varying practices of different States. The reader's mind is usually bewildered by the recitation of conflicting details. Dr. Mathews has made a strong and largely successful effort to solve this by selecting a few types of organization and describing these somewhat fully, and by subordinating the variations to footnotes or discarding them altogether. He has used good judgment in his choice of typical systems, usually presenting those which most deserve attention. The author's conclusions as to the modern tendencies in administration are sound and well reasoned. He offers also a goodly number of references for collateral reading and chooses these from works representing different standpoints. The reader is in this way given a broad view of State problems. There is a good concluding chapter on Reorganization.

Dr. Mathews has performed such a distinct service in the preparation of his book, that the reviewer is disposed to offer suggestions only as to a possible change in emphasis or proportion. A single chapter is devoted to Newer Functions of State Administration. These include such important subjects as the supervision of corporations, the administration of labor laws, the promotion of agriculture, etc. To most readers these subjects will be of much greater importance than has been assigned them. In most of the Commonwealths fully 60 per cent of the legislation and administrative activity deals with these subjects. In a later edition of the book, it may be hoped that the author will find room to expand the treatment of these topics, perhaps at the expense of the historical part of his chapters on Taxation and Finance. The book deserves and should find a wide field of usefulness among the colleges and universities.

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PHILLIPSON, COLEMAN. *Termination of War and Treaties of Peace*. Pp. xix, 486. Price, \$7.00. New York: E. P. Dutton and Company, 1916.

The author of this book is a London barrister and a well-known writer on international law. The outbreak of the present war appears to have greatly stimulated his productivity for he has lately brought out in rapid succession a treatise entitled *International Law and the Great War*, a new edition of Wheaton's *International Law* and the work here reviewed. It is not known to the reviewer whether the present work was intended to serve those who, it is to be hoped, will